

SC453372

Registered provider: Park Blue Homes Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is privately operated. It provides care for up to 5 children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in June 2025.

Five children were living at the home at the time of the inspection. Three children were spoken with by the inspectors.

Inspection date: 10 February 2026

Date of last inspection: 15 July 2025

Judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspection, the inspectors evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, and to consider how well it complies with The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards'.

Findings from the inspection

This assurance inspection was carried out due to an increase in safeguarding notifications and concerns being raised with Ofsted. We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children.

Children like living in the home. One child said, 'I wouldn't want to live anywhere else.' Children like to spend time with staff and enjoy doing activities. Staff also help children explore and engage in new experiences they want to try, and staff give them confidence to do so. One child who began rock climbing has now progressed well with the sport, helped by the support and encouragement from staff.

Staff work well with external services. When children's needs escalate and require intensive help from an outside agency, the manager ensures that this is sought, and children receive the help that they need. Furthermore, when staff need additional support around managing difficult behaviour, they receive support from the provider's clinical team through team meetings or clinical supervision sessions.

Children are helped by staff to engage in education. Existing school placements are maintained when children are admitted, including when these are far from the home. This allows children to maintain friendships and support networks they already have. When children wish to change school, staff discuss options with children and advocate for the most appropriate provision for them. This helps children to feel heard and valued.

Children are helped to reflect on their behaviour when difficulties arise. Staff support children to develop better ways of coping when they experience overwhelming emotions. Staff follow agreed strategies effectively to help children through periods of distress.

Allegations are managed effectively. When concerns were raised about a staff member's practice, the manager communicated with relevant agencies to investigate the concern appropriately. This gives children confidence to share difficult things with staff, and they feel safe to do so.

Restraint practice is used appropriately when needed to keep children safe. However, the manager has used a form of physical intervention that only they are trained in. This means staff are not trained in using this approved hold. Therefore, they are not fully equipped to use holds that contribute to keeping children safe.

When children move into the home, risks are not fully considered. The manager did not identify the potential effect of children living together and the timeliness of admitting a child to the home.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
15/07/2025	Full	Good
03/06/2024	Full	Good
22/08/2023	Full	Good
24/05/2022	Full	Good

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person must take to meet the Care Standards Act 2000, The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards'. The registered person must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose; ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; and understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(c)(f))	8 April 2026
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home; and have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that arrangements are in place to—	8 April 2026

ensure the effective induction of each child into the home;
and

manage and review the placement of each child in the home.
(Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(b)(i)(ii))

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC453372

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Park Blue Homes Limited

Registered provider address: 38 Freemans Way, Harrogate HG3 1DH

Responsible individual:

Registered manager: Courtney-Paige Cain

Inspectors

Gary Smithson, Social Care Inspector (lead)
Kirstie Sutherland, Social Care Inspector

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